

Message Text

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12
ACTION IO-13

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SUBJECT: 61ST ECOSOC THE FIRST WEEK IN GENEVA

1. SUMMARY. FOLLOWING THE ABIDJAN PORTION OF THE 61ST
ECOSOC, DELEGATIONS RESUMED WORK IN GENEVA ON JULY 12.

THE THREE WORKING COMMITTEES GOT OFF TO A TRANQUIL START
WITH GOOD ATTENDANCE BUT RELATIVELY LITTLE DEBATE ON ITEMS
OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE. THE WEEK OF JULY 19 WILL SEE
A FULL SCHEDULE WITH SEVERAL IMPORTANT ISSUES BEHIND
THE SCENES-INCLUDING LIILCIT PAYMENTS. END SUMMARY.

2. FROM THE US STANDPOINT, PERHAPS THE MAIN JOB
FOR THE BALANCE OF THE SESSION WILL BE THE HANDLING OF
OUR PROPOSAL ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL
TRADE AND INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS.
THE DELEGATION HAS BEEN ACTIVE ON THIS SUBJECT SINCE
ITS ARRIVAL, TAKING EXTENSIVE SOUNDINGS AND DOING A SELLING
JOB IN THE CORRIDORS. AS REPORTED IN DETAIL IN
SEPARATE TELEGRAMS, OTHERS HAVE RAISED A NUMBER OF
QUESTIONS AND POSSIBLE OBJECTIONS TO OUR PROPOSED TEXT

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DESPITE THE INTENSIVE PREPARATORY EFFORTS IN CAPITALS.

WHILE THE SUBJECT DOES NOT COME UP IN COMMITTEE UNTIL THE WEEK OF JULY 26, THE WEEK OF JULY 19 WILL BE CRITICAL IN NAILING DOWNSUPPORT, WORKING OVER THE TEXT INFORMALLY AND SEEING HOW BEST TO OVERCOME BASIC OBJECTIONS. WE FACE EXTRA MAJOR HURDLES DUE TO THE FACT THAT SEVERAL IMPORTANT INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES (E.L., GERMANY AND JAPAN ARE LUKEWARM TO PUT IT MILDLY.)

3. APART FROM ILLICIT PAYMENTS, THE BIGGEST ISSUE OR NON-ISSUE (WE DO NOT YET KNOW HOW IT WILL TURN OUT) IS THE OMNIBUS ITEM BEFORE THE SPECIAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE. THIS ITEM LUMPS TOGETHER A REVIEW OF THE NIEO, FOLLOW-UP TO THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION INCLUDING UNCTAD RESULTS, CIEC, AND --ABOVE ALL--THE FUTURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY. THE FIRST WEEK HAS BEEN OCCUPIED PRIMARILY WITH BRIEFINGS BY UNCTAD SYG COREA ON NAIROBI AND UN USYG VAN LAETHEM ON THE PARIS CONFERENCE. THERE HAS ALSO BEEN A SMALL RIPPLE RESULTING FROM G-77 CRITICISMS OF THE WORLD ECONOMIC SURVEY PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT. (THEY FOUND IT NOT SUFFICIENTLY IN TUNE WITH NIEO.)

4. BEHIND THE SCENES THE G-77 ARE STILL CAUCUSING, TRYING TO DECIDE WHETHER THEY HAVE SHOT THEIR BOLT FOR THIS SESSION WITH THE DECLARATION OF ABIDJAN, OR WHETHER THEY SHOULD TRY TO PUSH THROUGH SOME SERIOUS RESOLUTION IN ORDER TO POSITION THEMSELVES FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS FALL AND FOR WORK NEXT YEAR ON IDS AND RELATED QUESTIONS. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE SENTIMENT (G-77 AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES) THAT UNDERTAKEN WITH A VIEW TO A THIRD DEVELOPMENT DECADE RATHER THAN THE BALANCE OF THE 1970'S. BUT HOW THIS ISSUE WILL WORK ITSELF OUT IS STILL UNCERTAIN.

5. THE TWO OTHER WORKING BODIES --ECONOMIC COMMITTEE AND POLICY AND PROGRAM COORDINATION COMMITTEE--HAVE ALREADY WORKED THEIR WAY THROUGH SEVERAL AGENDA ITEMS WHICH HAVE BEEN, OR WILL BE, REPORTED ROUTINELY. THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE DEALT WITH SUCH MATTERS AS EXPORT PROMOTION AND THE "UNIFIED APPROACH" TO DEVELOPMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PLANNING. THE MEXICANS HAVE AN INFORMAL DRAFT RESOLUTION (NOT YET CLEARED BY THE G-77) ON NATURAL RESOURCES WHICH WE ARE REPORTING BY SEPTEL. IT COULD RAISE MAJOR PROBLEMS FOR THE US, E.G., PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY. THE COORDINATION COMMITTEE HAS BEGUN ITS CONSIDERATION OF SUCH ISSUES AS THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT AND THE PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD. SUCH DIFFICULT SUBJECTS AS REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES OF UN

AGRICULTURAL BODIES ARE YET TO COME.

6. ALL COMMITTEES ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE A FULL
SCHEDULE NEXT WEEK. IN ADDITION, DELEGATIONS WILL
HAVE TO STAFF THE RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE BEING HELD
IN PARALLEL WITH THE ECOSOC SESSION.DALE

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